



# THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OF TRUST

I invite you to walk with me through the Old Testament and discover how God uses the stories of broken men—not perfect ones—to help us learn to trust Him. These lives aren't just ancient history; they are windows into our own struggles and hopes. Each story leads us closer to Jesus, the one in whom all trust finds its meaning. Along the way, your "trust muscle" will be stretched and strengthened as we explore what it means to truly follow the One who is trustworthy. Let's take the journey together.

## DAVID – When Trust Breaks at Home

Nothing in the world works without trust. Trust is established through relationship. Who do you trust? Who do you follow?

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable

[www.MensTable.com](http://www.MensTable.com)

August 07, 2025

**Scripture:** II Samuel 13:9-22; II Samuel 14:21-31; II Samuel 11:16-27

**Music:** Rhett Walker - Family Is Family - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNGiTI\\_Tk8s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNGiTI_Tk8s)

**Videos:** Old Testament Summary - <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/old-testament-tanak/>

Jared Allen's FULL Hall of Fame speech - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dyv6Z77cQPp>

**Resources:** *Hitchhiking with Prophets – A Ride through the Salvation Story of the Old Testament* by Chad Bird

*Trust – Knowing When to Give It, When to Withhold It, How to Earn It, and How to Fix It When It Gets Broken in Life and Business* by Dr. Henry Cloud

### DAVID – Failure at Home!

1. \_\_\_\_\_ → Ignoring the sin in his children (Amnon and Tamar). David failed to confront Amnon's abuse of Tamar. His silence communicated indifference or fear—leading to Absalom's rage and deeper fracture. Trust in God calls us to intervene in injustice, even when it's uncomfortable or close to home. II Samuel 13.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ → Avoiding conflict with Absalom. After Tamar's violation, David brings Absalom back to Jerusalem but refuses to speak to him for two years. This avoidance breeds rebellion. Absalom eventually stages a coup. Trust invites reconciliation and conversation. Avoiding hard dialogue only deepens wounds. II Samuel 14-15.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ → Modeling compromise in His own life. David's own sin with Bathsheba and Uriah models betrayal, secrecy, and moral compromise. His choices weaken his moral authority as a father and king. What we do in private forms the foundation for trust in public and at home. II Samuel 11-12.

### The 5 Essentials of Trust

1. **Understanding** - You trust people who 'get you.' They listen, empathize, and validate your perspective without quick fixes.
2. **Motive** - Trust is built when the other person's heart is for you, not just for their own interests. You feel safe when someone genuinely wants your good.
3. **Ability** - Good intentions aren't enough. We trust people who are competent—who have the skills, wisdom, or experience to follow through.
4. **Character** - You trust those who do the right thing when it costs them. Integrity, humility, and consistency over time shape deep trust.
5. **Track Record** - Trust is strengthened when someone has shown up again and again—when they've proven themselves trustworthy through real-life situations.

### Breaking Your Barriers – Part II Insights from Dr. Henry Cloud - TRUST.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ → Cloud emphasizes that past hurts can distort trust—especially those caused by people we once trusted—can reshape our view of others and God. Unhealed emotional wounds often cause us to project suspicion and fear onto new relationships.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ → Self-Protection is how we relate when core relational needs (like safety, connection, or validation) go unmet, we often build emotional walls. These walls may feel protective, but they also block genuine trust and growth.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ → Mistrust becomes a pattern without awareness. Cloud notes that mistrust can become a relational default if we never examine it. We start to assume others will hurt us and avoid vulnerability. Healing begins with awareness—and with new, trustworthy experiences.

### Take Action! Journal This!

1. What unhealed emotional wounds have influenced your ability to trust God or others?
2. What needs of safety, connection, or validation have gone unmet in your life that inhibits your ability to trust?
3. How is your lack of vulnerability connected to a story from your past?



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## SCRIPTURE – The Message

**II Samuel 13:9-22 - 9** But when she took the cooking pot and served him, he wouldn't eat.**10** Then he said to Tamar, "Bring the food into my bedroom, where we can eat in privacy." She took the nourishing dumplings she had prepared and brought them to her brother Amnon in his bedroom.**11** But when she got ready to feed him, he grabbed her and said, "Come to bed with me, sister!"**12** "No, brother!" she said, "Don't hurt me! This kind of thing isn't done in Israel! Don't do this terrible thing!**13** Where could I ever show my face? And you - you'll be out on the street in disgrace. Oh, please! Speak to the king - he'll let you marry me."**14** But he wouldn't listen. Being much stronger than she, he raped her.**15** No sooner had Amnon raped her than he hated her - an immense hatred. The hatred that he felt for her was greater than the love he'd had for her. "Get up," he said, "and get out!"**16** "Oh no, brother," she said. "Please! This is an even worse evil than what you just did to me!"**17** He called for his valet. "Get rid of this woman. Get her out of my sight! And lock the door after her."**18** The valet threw her out and locked the door behind her.**19** Tamar poured ashes on her head, then she ripped the long-sleeved gown, held her head in her hands, and walked away, sobbing as she went.**20** Her brother Absalom said to her, "Has your brother Amnon had his way with you? Now, my dear sister, let's keep it quiet - a family matter. He is, after all, your brother. Don't take this so hard." Tamar lived in her brother Absalom's home, bitter and desolate.**21** King David heard the whole story and was enraged,**22** but he didn't discipline Amnon. David doted on him because he was his firstborn. Absalom quit speaking to Amnon - not a word, whether good or bad - because he hated him for violating his sister Tamar.

**II Samuel 14:21-31 - 21** The king spoke to Joab. "All right, I'll do it. Go and bring the young man Absalom back."**22** Joab bowed deeply in reverence and blessed the king. "I'm reassured to know that I'm still in your good graces and have your confidence, since the king is taking the counsel of his servant."**23** Joab got up, went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.**24** The king said, "He may return to his house, but he is not to see me face to face." So Absalom returned home, but was not permitted to see the king.**25** This Absalom! There wasn't a man in all Israel talked about so much for his handsome good looks - and not a blemish on him

from head to toe!**26** When he cut his hair - he always cut it short in the spring because it had grown so heavy - the weight of the hair from his head was over two pounds!**27** Three sons were born to Absalom, and one daughter. Her name was Tamar - and she was a beauty.**28** Absalom lived in Jerusalem for two years, and not once did he see the king face to face.**29** He sent for Joab to get him in to see the king, but Joab still wouldn't budge. He tried a second time and Joab still wouldn't.**30** So he told his servants, "Listen. Joab's field adjoins mine, and he has a crop of barley in it. Go set fire to it." So Absalom's servants set fire to the field.**31** That got him moving - Joab came to Absalom at home and said, "Why did your servants set my field on fire?"

**II Samuel 11:16-27 - 16** So Joab, holding the city under siege, put Uriah in a place where he knew there were fierce enemy fighters.**17** When the city's defenders came out to fight Joab, some of David's soldiers were killed, including Uriah the Hittite.**18** Joab sent David a full report on the battle.**19** He instructed the messenger, "After you have given to the king a detailed report on the battle,**20** if he flares in anger,**21** say, 'And by the way, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.'" **22** Joab's messenger arrived in Jerusalem and gave the king a full report.**23** He said, "The enemy was too much for us. They advanced on us in the open field, and we pushed them back to the city gate.**24** But then arrows came hot and heavy on us from the city wall, and eighteen of the king's soldiers died."**25** When the messenger completed his report of the battle, David got angry at Joab. He vented it on the messenger: "Why did you get so close to the city? Didn't you know you'd be attacked from the wall? Didn't you remember how Abimelech son of Jerub-Besheth got killed? Wasn't it a woman who dropped a millstone on him from the wall and crushed him at Thebez? Why did you go close to the wall!" "By the way," said Joab's messenger, "your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead." Then David told the messenger, "Oh. I see. Tell Joab, 'Don't trouble yourself over this. War kills - sometimes one, sometimes another - you never know who's next. Redouble your assault on the city and destroy it.' Encourage Joab."**26** When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she grieved for her husband.**27** When the time of mourning was over, David sent someone to bring her to his house. She became his wife and bore him a son. But God was not at all pleased with what David had done,

## "Family is Family" – Rhett Walker

<p>(Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh...)</p> <p>Lean on me, and brother I will lean on you</p> <p>There's nothing in the world that we can't get through</p> <p>I've got a shoulder, you can laugh or you can cry</p> <p>There's never a moment that it's not true</p> <p>It ain't quiet but we like it</p> <p>It ain't perfect but it's worth it</p> <p>It goes like this</p> <p>We show up, we love big</p> <p>We pray hard, we forgive</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>We might bend but we won't break</p> <p>We grow up but it won't change</p>	<p>Family is family, oh</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>(Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh)</p> <p>We got problems but the grace will never change</p> <p>There's one truth that holds it all together</p> <p>Thank You, Jesus, we all share the family name</p> <p>We're all sons and daughters of the Father, yeah</p> <p>We show up, we love big</p> <p>We pray hard, we forgive</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>We might bend but we won't break</p> <p>We grow up but it won't change</p> <p>Family is family, oh</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>(Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh)</p> <p>(Alright, follow along with me right here...)</p>	<p>It ain't quiet (Quiet) but we like it (Like it)</p> <p>It ain't perfect (Perfect) but it's worth it</p> <p>Oh, it ain't quiet (Quiet) but we like it (Like it)</p> <p>No, it ain't perfect (Perfect) but it's worth it</p> <p>We show up, we love big</p> <p>We pray hard, we forgive</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>We might bend but we won't break</p> <p>We grow up but it won't change</p> <p>Family is family, yeah</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>(One more time now)</p> <p>Family is family, yeah</p> <p>Family is family</p> <p>Alright</p>
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